

Office of Secretary of Defense Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office

Daily Media Watch

24 May 2010

CURRENT

Michaud: Sexual Assaults in Military Higher than Reported - MPBN News

Maine's 2nd district congressman says a new Department of Defense report on sexual assaults in the military understates the extent of the problem. Maine 2nd District Congressman Mike Michaud says a new Department of Defense report outlining incidents sexual assault the military understates problem. of in the According to the DOD report, complaints about such incidents are up 11 percent over the previous year. As the first of several hearings on the issue got underway yesterday, Michaud, who chairs the Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Health, said he believes the number of assaults is higher than reports indicate.

<u>SWHR President Testifies at *Military Sexual* Trauma Hearing</u> - Newswise (press release)

Newswise — Among a panel of experts testifying before the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, Subcommittee on Health, Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR) President and CEO Phyllis Greenberger, MSW, urged Congress to consider the risks and ramifications of military sexual trauma (MST). The hearing, Healing the Wounds: Evaluating Military Sexual Trauma Issues, covered the often overlooked issue of sexual assault in the military. MST refers to sexual assault or sexual harassment that occurred while a veteran was in the military.

<u>Survivors of Military Sexual Trauma Continue to Face Uphill Battle ...</u> - Imperial Valley News

Washington, DC - John Hall (D-NY), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, and Michael Michael (D-ME), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Health, conducted a hearing to evaluate military sexual trauma (MST) issues. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) refers to MST as the experiences of sexual harassment and/or sexual assault that occurred while a veteran was in the military.

<u>Mistakes become career-enders during drawdown</u>- AirForceTimes.com - Michelle Tan

An Air Force legal expert backed up Parsons' contention about crime being bad for careers: A drug conviction, for example, means discharge. "Most of our courts-martial are drug offenses, marijuana, dereliction of duty, making false statements, disobeying orders, and everything you can imagine, to sexual assault and the occasional murder," said Col. Ken Theurer, chief of the military justice division in the Air Force Legal Operations Agency. "We expect our airmen to live up to the Air Force core values at all times," he said.

FBI: Suspect in Christina Williams case may be linked to missing ... -

Monterey County Herald - Virginia Hennessey

Holifield was in basic training in the Army at Fort Knox, Ky., when that victim identified him, and he was sent back to face trial. He was living in troop quarters on Fort Ord when the 14-year-old daughter of an Army specialist was raped as she took a shortcut through the brush on her way home from Fitch. She was 5 feet tall, thin, with auburn or brown hair worn straight down her back. After the rape, her attacker talked to her about the school, then ran away when he heard sirens. Two weeks later, the girl saw Holifield at the Fort Ord library and called her father.

<u>Canada top commander charged with murder, assault</u> - The Associated Press - Rob Gillies

TORONTO — As Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip waved to the crowd after a 2005 visit, a tall, fit officer stood next to them. He saluted the royal couple, and flew them home to Britain. Now that same elite Canadian pilot, Colonel Russell Williams, stands charged with the murder of two women, the sexual assault of two others and 82 break-ins, during which he often stole women's panties. The charges have shocked a country, hurt soldiers' morale and prompted fears that the commander of Canada's most high-profile military base and the man who once flew Canadian prime ministers could be a serial killer.

<u>Army wives fear sex attacker at Royal Military College and ...</u> - Daily Telegraph - Sue Dunlevy - Ian McPhedran

A WOMAN living at the nation's elite military academy has been sexually assaulted and others have been attacked and terrorised by a hooded prowler. The victims live in the married quarters at Canberra's Royal Military College and the Australian Defence Force Academy, where security has been increased in recent days. The sexual assault, which occurred at Duntroon last August, is being investigated by police. The Daily Telegraph has been told there have been several other assaults at the garrison.

<u>Japanese PM: US military base will stay in Okinawa</u> - CNN International - Kyung Lah

Tokyo, Japan (CNN) -- Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama went back on a campaign promise and announced Sunday that a U.S. military base would remain in Okinawa. He called his decision "heartbreaking." "It is true that I said I wanted to relocate the facility outside of Okinawa," he said. "However, I'd like to apologize that the conclusion is not what the Okinawans wanted." The U.S. Marine Corps Futenma base will be relocated to the Henoko area of the island, which is less densely populated, Hatoyama said.

<u>Brandon man charged with rape for second time</u> - Tampabay.com - Shelley Rossetter

A Brandon man already facing rape charges from last year was arrested Saturday morning on similar charges, according to an arrest report. Deputies arrested Wilson Gomez, 50, at his home at 202 Mason St., after, they say, he had sex with a woman who did not give her consent. He is charged with sexual battery, the report said. Gomez, who is in the Army and works at United States Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base, was arrested in 2009 and charged with sexual battery using a deadly weapon or force causing injury in connection with a 2001 incident, jail records show.